

CLASSIFICATION SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

COUNTRY Eastern Germany REPORT NO. 25X1

TOPIC Military Information from the area of Rathenow 25X1

25X1

25X1

DATE PREPARED 29 August 1952 25X1

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PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

REFERENCE COPY

DO NOT CIRCULATE 25X1

1. The field exercise which involved the headquarters from the 25X1  
Ziethen Kaserne in Rathenow (N 53/Z 15) was conducted in the 25X1  
area west of Rathenow as far as the area of Genthin. The head-  
quarters was stationed in Wolsier on 16 and 17 July, in Schollene  
on 18 through 20 July and in Rathenow on 21 July. At 9 a.m. on  
22 July, it departed for Genthin. At 12:30 p.m. on 16 July, a  
column of motor vehicles

stood at the Spatz-Wolsier 25X1  
road. The personnel wearing red-bordered black epaulets had 25X1  
dismounted and camped along the road. The column proceeded in the 25X1  
direction of Wolsier at 1 p.m. The trucks were occupied by an 25X1  
average of one officer and 20 soldiers. Range finders and field 25X1  
telephones were seen. At 11:30 a.m. on 17 July, a dismounted column,  
seen at the Steckelsdorf-Schollene road included motor vehicle

towing a field kitchen; 25X1  
radio car with extended rod antenna 25X1

towing guns which were 45-mm 25X1  
AT guns. The column proceeded toward Schollene at 12:30 p.m. The 25X1  
trucks transported an average of 20 soldiers, and the guns they 25X1  
towed were mounted by eight soldiers. A column including motor 25X1  
vehicles towing 25X1  
guns which were 45-mm AT guns 25X1  
was seen in Vieritz, about 10 km southwest of Steckelsdorf.  
The trucks towing guns were mounted by eight soldiers each, and each  
of the other trucks transported about 15 soldiers wearing red-  
bordered black epaulets. (1) 25X1

2. At 7 p.m. on 3 August, a conference held in the Ziethen Kaserne in  
Rathenow was attended by a general and 32 officers. The general  
was not identical with the commanding general in Rathenow 25X1  
Sedans 25X1  
were occupied by officers wearing red-bordered black

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25X1

25X1

epaulets, and sedans [redacted] were  
occupied by air force officers. [redacted]

25X1

3. On 22 July, 25 officers and 200 soldiers were entrained at the Rathenow railroad station in 2 coaches and 3 boxcars. Twenty-five young soldiers with closely cropped hair arrived at the Pionier Kaserne. (4) On 26 July, the strengths [redacted] 25X1  
[redacted] were 25 officers and 160 personnel for the Infanterie Kaserne, 20 officers and 160 personnel for the Pionier Kaserne and 30 officers and 200 personnel for the Kraftfahrer Kaserne. On 26 July, the woods between Albertstein and Hohenauen were blocked by sentries wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. Trucks [redacted] 25X1  
[redacted] and two T-34 tanks were seen near [redacted] 25X1  
Goettlin on 28 July. [redacted] they were engaged in an exercise. 25X1

On 2 August, the Infanterie Kaserne was occupied by about 200 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets including about 10 soldiers wearing signal insignia, about 125 men wearing motor transport insignia and about 65 soldiers wearing artillery insignia. 25X1

[redacted] Comments.

- (1) On 3 July, [redacted] a column of motor vehicles leave the Kraftfahrer Kaserne in Rathenow, allegedly for a long exercise. 25X1  
[redacted] At the time, it was concluded that probably a rear detail of the 10th How Arty Brig (US) had left. [redacted]

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25X1

25X1

[redacted] the headquarters of the IV Arty Corps 25X1  
 From the Ziethen Kaserne was involved. However, [redacted] 25X1

25X1

[redacted] During the  
 period from 7 to 19 JULY, it is possible that the corps headquarters  
 was not there. [redacted] 25X1

25X1

25X1

[redacted] According  
 to the data, the exercise must have covered the area northwest of  
 Rathenow on both sides of the Havel River as far as Genthin. Most  
 of the motor vehicle columns reported in conjunction with this  
 exercise belong to GHQ units, except for those [redacted] 25X1  
 [redacted] which belong to the Third Shock Army. It is notable that there  
 were a large number of 45-mm AT guns which, so far as is known, do  
 not belong to the equipment of the artillery brigades of the IV  
 Arty Corps. The brigades have 76.2-mm guns. It is therefore not  
 possible to definitely identify the units which participated in the  
 exercise. 25X1

25X1

25X1

- (2) Another officers conference had been held at the Ziethen Kaserne  
 in late June. [redacted] 25X1

25X1

25X1

- (3) [redacted] a first and second battalion in the  
 Ziethen Kaserne in Rathenow. [redacted] The first 25X1  
 battalion had been to Altengrabow during the period from 29 May to 25X1  
 4 July, but the second battalion remained at the barracks installation.  
 The two units probably departed for Altengrabow on 31 July. 25X1

- (4) Similar observations concerning the departure of discharged personnel  
 and arrival of recruits has been received from other posts and 25X1  
 training areas.

Major General of the Technical Troops F. Ya. Gerasimov is believed  
 identical with an officer of the same name who, without given name  
 and rank, was mentioned by Trasnaya Svesda on 30 March 1946 as giving  
 a lecture to topographical instructors. [redacted] 25X1

25X1

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